

Attorney Docket No. HHI-~~US~~US
PCT/DE01/02486
WO 02/04147 A1

REMARKS

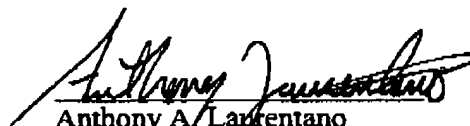
Applicants amend the specification to address minor formal matters, such as introducing appropriate section headers. Applicants also amend the claims to provide proper antecedent basis, and to address other matters of form. The foregoing amendments introduce no new matter and are not related to issues of patentability.

Entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment is in order and requested.

If there are any questions regarding the proposed amendments to the application, we invite the Examiner to call Applicants' representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version With Markings T Show Changes Made

In the Specification

Page 1, line 3:

The invention relates to a device ~~according to the preamble of claim 1~~ for producing castings.

Page 1, lines 6-7:

European Patent 1 046 444 A1 discloses a conventional ~~device of this type according to the species.~~ Three pistons are used to create a variable-volume chamber for the injection material. In it, two pistons are axially movable within a tubular cavity, and a third piston can be moved perpendicularly to the longitudinal axis of the chamber between the two above-mentioned pistons so as to convey the material into the mold cavity. The requirement here is that there be a precise seal between the three pistons relative to one another and to the chamber. Because of the space requirement and the demands on the seal, the device according to the species is very expensive to produce.

Page 1, lines 29-30:

The goal of the present invention is to improve a device ~~according to the species~~ so that it is as efficient as possible, has compact dimensions, and can be operated as inexpensively as possible.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1-3.

1. Device for producing castings out of a fusible or dispersible base material, comprising including an injection unit from which the at least partially liquefied material can be injected into a mold, wherein the injection unit has an inlet port for feeding the material, and wherein the injection unit has a chamber with two movable walls which

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~~may as desired be moved~~ are adapted to move either together in the same direction or in opposite directions so to vary a volume ~~that the cavity of the chamber may be varied by volume as desired and/or be displaceable, and wherein one of the two walls forming a section of the wall delimiting the mold forms the cavity (9),~~

~~characterized in that the two walls each form a part of the walls delimiting the mold cavity (9), wherein one of the two walls being is movable into the mold (2).~~

2. Device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the wall which is movable into the mold (2) is ~~designed configured~~ as a piston (8) which is supported within a tubular chamber wall so as to be longitudinally movable or is supported so as to be movable toward the chamber (5) to perform a sealing function, and wherein the that ~~this wall is movable together with a movable mold section (11) of the mold (2).~~

3. Device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the wall which is movable into mold (2) is ~~designed configured~~ to partially determine the surface shape of the casting.